

On December 12, 2005, Senator Kent Williams and Representative Douglas Jennings presented \$250,000 to Sheriff Fred Knight and Marlboro County Council Chairman, Ken Allen for the purpose of building a new Sheriff's Department for Marlboro County. Senator Williams advised this is the first time in history that the State of South Carolina has stepped in to aid in building a Sheriff's Department for a County. Senator Williams stated that the citizens of small rural communities deserve the same protection as the larger communities.

Representative Jennings stated that Senator Williams fought hard in the Senate to obtain the funds for Marlboro County. He advised that after the bill was vetoed by the Governor, Senator Williams worked with the Senate to override the veto. Representative Jennings thanked Council Members (Ken Allen, Edmond Blue, Jeff Quick, Mickey Rogers, Jean McLean, Marion Wright, and Corrie Plato) for being present and for their support.

Sheriff Fred Knight thanked the Council Members and Administrator, Anna Hubbard for their support. He thanked the whole Sheriff's Department, Citizens of Marlboro County, and the Legislative Delegation that helped to bring the funds to the County. Sheriff Knight stated that it will take time and patience. He stated it is his hope that the Sheriff's Department and County Council can work together. Sheriff Knight recognized Council for stepping forward with \$115,000 for cars and equipment for the Sheriff's Department.

Council Chairman, Ken Allen stated that this will be a collaborative effort. He said that things do not always work fast with politics, we do not want to make mistakes. He said things usually have a way of working out.

Senator Williams end by stating that anything is possible when working as a team, he wants people to have the best quality of life as possible.